

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sat Feb 3 00:53:57 1996
From: Scott Rosenfeld NF3I <ham@w3eax.umd.edu>
Subject: [3789] Alinco DX-70T as QRP rig...a review de NF3I...
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9602020957.A9809-01000000@w3eax.umd.edu>

For potential owners of the Alinco DX-70T, a nice, double-conversion, HF/6m compact xcvr:

People have recently posted info about the Kenwood TS-50S and Icom 706 at QRP levels. The Alinco has 50 and 100 watt settings internally, and a high/low power switch on the front panel. The receiver is not as good as my Ten-Tec OMNI V. Big shock. But it's quite a good receiver, at least as good as my 735 was. QST reviewed it this month.

First, to get 5 watts out:

Mess with the 100W pot, set the internal power level to the 50 watt setting and the radio will get down under 5 watts. High power at the 100 watt setting will be reduced to about 75 watts. You may have to mess with the 50 watt pot as well (I don't remember...) and the Ic pot controls the max current into the finals. DO NOT MESS WITH IT! It should limit Ic to 19.5 amps; QRP levels should be achieved via the 50 and 100 W pots.

FURTHERMORE, the 6m side puts out 1/10 of the HF power, so with the high power setting set to 50w, it puts out 5 watts on 6m (0.5w on low)!

CURRENT DRAIN

Power on, lights off, rcvr squelched	600 mA
Power on, lgts. off, loud audio	650 mA
XMIT enabled, no power out, lgts. off	1490 mA
XMIT enabled, 5 watts out CW, lgts. off	3800-4150 mA
XMIT enabled, 50 watts CW, lgts. off	11.5 A

The following additions for the panel lamps:

Setting	0	1	2	3	4	5
Add mA	0	40	70	90	110	140

So it's pretty thrifty on current compared to other synth. rigs...not an Index QRP+, but better than most. And unlike the 706, the fan only runs when it gets warm. It rarely comes on at QRP levels, even though at 4 amps (50 watts input power, 5 watts RF output = 45 watts of heat) it gets a little warm.

Nice, nice little radio. A joy to operate. Headphones work great with 100 ohms in series. Things it DOES have:

HF and 6m!
 receive CW on upper or lower sideband
 store split memories in any of 100 mems
 two VFOs
 RIT/XIT
 IF shift
 noise blanker (somewhat effective)
 priority watch
 group scanning (banks of 10 memories)
 band scanning
 remembers info from each band
 10 db preamp/10 and 20 db attenuators
 DIP switch-settable CTCSS encode
 CW offset, 650/750/850 Hz and tracking sidetone
 Full QSK/seven delays of semi-QSK
 Speech processor (can only be turned on/off from outside, adjustment
 must be made with cover off)
 All mode squelch
 Multi-function knob that works for fast QSYing as well as MANY other things
 Slow/Fast AGC
 QUICK-SPLIT setting
 TX freq. spotting

Wish it had:

a front-panel headphone jack
 a VOX circuit
 a notch filter

Everything is soft-settable, accessed by a double-click-and-hold of the
 FUNC button. A little tough not seeing things at first, but REALLY nice
 when one eventually gets used to it (p.s. this does not take very long).
 It's small and it's well under 6 pounds. The faceplate is removable, and
 yes, you do need to buy (or make one, like I did) a mic extension cable
 since the mic connector is on the RF deck itself.

Mods include (and I've done them, thanks to N0IAT)

Wideband xmit
 Coverage down to 150 kHz (lowfer receiver?)
 Coverage up to 33 MHz (low band VHF!)
 6m side open from 45-60 MHz

All filters are included, and serve the following functions:

	500 Hz	1 kHz	2.4 kHz	9 kHz
CW	CW Narrow	CW wide		
SSB		SSB Narrow	SSB Wide	

AM
FM

AM Narrow

AM Wide
FM

I thought the 1 kHz SSB filter would be too narrow, but used it during SSB SS last weekend and it worked very, very nicely. I wish the 500 Hz CW filter were sharper, but it does help.

This radio is now about \$950 and goes for the upper-\$700s used.

Scott Rosenfeld NF3I Burtonsville, MD FM19 QRV 40-10/6/2/440
** Yes, you CAN do VHF contests with 25W and omni antennas **
Still stuck at 138 countries confirmed on HF w/dipoles...

72 & 73 from lovely suburban DC 301-549-1022 weekends/evenings

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sat Feb 3 00:53:57 1996
From: teixeira@ccnet.ccnet.com (***T E I X E I R A***)
Subject: [3795] Alt.Ham-Radio.morse
Message-ID: <v01520d00ad37874c997b@[206.80.32.117]>

There is a new "News Group" called : Alt. Ham-Radio.morse

This might be a great place for "Old Hams" to give "New Hams" tips on learning and using CW.

It's not being used much now and I think it can be a good resource.

Don, N6FNL

The true value of a human being
can be found in the degree to which
he has attained liberation from the self

Albert Einstein.....

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sat Feb 3 00:53:57 1996
From: Thom.LaCosta@f0.n105.z105.fido261.qis.net (Thom LaCosta)
Subject: [3797] Alt.Ham-Radio.morse
Message-ID: <3b5_9602021248@fido261.qis.net>

T E I X E I R A wrote in a message to All:

>EIXEIRA> From: teixeira@ccnet.ccnet.com (***T E I X E I R A***)
>EIXEIRA> Subject: Alt.Ham-Radio.morse

>EIXEIRA> There is a new "News Group" called : Alt. Ham-Radio.morse

>EIXEIRA> This might be a great place for "Old Hams" to give "New Hams"
>EIXEIRA> tips on learning and using CW.

>EIXEIRA> It's not being used much now and I think it can be a good
>EIXEIRA> resource.

Is it also available as a list ?

Thom LaCosta
N3WDV
Our Business is Business
--

|Internet: Thom.LaCosta@f0.n105.z105.fido261.qis.net
|Standard disclaimer: This user speaks only for him/her self.

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sat Feb 3 00:53:57 1996
From: rerobins@unccvm.uncc.edu (Richard E. Robinson)
Subject: [3804] Antenna tuners
Message-ID: <199602022049.PAA20522@mail.uncc.edu>

Someone asked about the tuners folks use. As a sucker for a good tuner, I thought I'd reply. I've had quite a few and have 5 at the present time. Since they are easy to put together, I'm always scouring the fleamarket at hamfests looking for parts. I've also had some nice commercial ones.

Time to pull out the Kleenex as I remember the Johnson 275 watt w/swr meter that I had in the early '70s. It would load up just about anything, and I even made

some local 10 meter QSOs loading up an aluminum window screen. I've always been a big believer in good ground systems though, so that helped. In a fit of sheer madness, I sold or traded it. Next I had a Unique Wire tuner with a beautiful 28uH roller inductor and Groth counter. It did a nice job of loading up my Argonaut to a 150 foot long wire. I should have kept it for the parts. Another stupid sale/trade.

I've also got the original TenTec AC-4, I think that's the model number, tuner for the PM series. A very simple open frame tuner which does a great job with balanced line. I spied a beautiful homebrew tuner at a hamfest about 8 years ago for \$15 and it followed me home. It is the QRP tuner in the mid '70s ARRL handbook. It looks very much like the St. Louis tuner, at least from the GIF pictures out on the web. Works quite well with my vertical.

Back in October, I picked up another homebrew tuner from an OT at the Rock Hill, SC, hamfest just for the roller inductor and the counter drive. It turns out to be a Doug DeMaw, W1FB, SPC tuner which is in my 1986 handbook. The fellow I got it from used 3 surplus ARC-5 capacitors and a roller inductor to build it. This is DeMaw's redesign of the classic Ultimate Transmatch. I'm going to have to add a balun in order to use the new balanced line antenna going up in the spring with this tuner. This is tuner overkill for QRP, but I also have an old Heathkit Apache AM rig that's under restoration. I also have an MFJ-941C that I got for \$30, that didn't work with my old balanced line antenna. Opened it up and found the secondary windings on the antenna toroid twisted together and soldered to a ground lug. That must've been built on a Friday afternoon, and explains the good deal I got.

As we QRPers show, good operating, good receivers and good antenna systems will more than make up for reduced power.

Can anyone describe the circuitry of the St. Louis tuner? Is it a balanced tuner, PI, L ?

I'd like to hear from other tuner lovers, what do you use, like, dislike, interesting designs you've found. DeMaw's SPC, series-parallel capacitor, circuit is an interesting design. I'm going to use this one before I canabilize it. I may not want to after I use it.

72,

Rick Robinson kf4ar
rerobins@uncc.edu

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sat Feb 3 00:53:57 1996
From: rossi@VFL.Paramax.COM (Pete Rossi)
Subject: [3783] Anybody else hear/work N2CX FOX?
Message-ID: <9602021353.AA22713@gvlf6-a>

Worked N2CX about 0220 UTC last night. No problem. But from the sound of it, I don't think he worked too much else. Listened to him call CQ over and over with no answers.

Found myself still up at 0400z so took a listen for Stan but heard no trace of him or any hunters. Gave up and went to bed at 0430.. Band was really quiet here. Lots of stuff in there from the south but not all that strong.

Pete Rossi - WA3NNA
rossi@vfl.paramax.com
Loral Defense Systems-Eagan (formerly Unisys Government Systems Group)
Valley Forge Engineering Center - Paoli, Pennsylvania

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sat Feb 3 00:53:57 1996
From: Joe Everhart <n2cx@voicenet.com>
Subject: [3799] Atlantic Coast Fox Bust
Message-ID: <9602020432.AA21024@voicenet.com>

Wow, I feel like Dr. Kevorkian!

Managed to work just two stations :-(

Freq	Time	Call	RST Sent	RST Rcvd
7.11	2108 EST	WA9PWP	349	459 WIS
7.04	2121	WA3NNA	449	579 (?) PA

Pete, near infamous Dupont mansion.

When I get on a band it goes DEAD!!!! Bnad sounded kinda weak when I started and it rapidly went to pot. Didn't even hear any callers beyond the guys worked. Thanks to them the night wasn't a complete failure.

After I worked WA3NNA, 40 was like a desert at high noon. The TV horizontal rate buzzes every 15 kHz lay there like bones bleached by the sun scattered around a poisoned (QRP freq) watering hole. No kilowatt tuner uppers circling like buzzards in the sky, no packet racket scurrying around like

desert wolves. No nothin'!

Called CQ INET FOX about a zillion times. Nada, nothing, zilch, Z-E-R-O, nil (oops, sorry 8IJN).

About 2230 EST, the digital droids (don't flame me I'm quoting Chuck :-)) started creeping back like the desert fauna that slowly retakes the barren wastes after dark. Maybe propagation will return for the west coast fox, returning like desert flowers after the spring rains. Maybe.

Me, I'm going to bed. And with my luck I'll find a rattlesnake in my sleeping bag and scorpions in my boots tomorrow morning. ;-)

72/73,

Joe E., N2CX

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sat Feb 3 00:53:57 1996
From: ruswhite@netzone.com (Russell W. White)
Subject: [3824] Best? mode A or B
Message-ID: <199602030352.UAA13616@nz1.netzone.com>

Which Iambic mode works best for you, Mode A or Mode B?

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|*****|
| Russ White AB7JX (ex WB1GQG) QRP-ARCI NORCAL NEQRP |
| Phoenix AZ QRP-L #179 ARRL ARRL-VE |
|*****|
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From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sat Feb 3 00:53:57 1996
From: Paul Christensen <PaulC@jax.se.continental.com>
Subject: [3806] CW Crystal Co. Info
Message-ID: <3112A2EA@se.continental.com>

Rather than wait for the man's SASE, does anyone know how much to pay for the following? I have his Marshfield, MO address and I only need to get pricing and shipping cost information. Last year, I sent a SASE with \$1.00 and never received the information.

A total of seven 40-meter FT-243 Crystals for the CW portion of the band.

-Paul, N9AZ

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sat Feb 3 00:53:57 1996
From: Muscolino_Bruce@tmac.com
Subject: [3790] Dayton Rooms
Message-ID: <11230530@tmac.com>

Gang,

Don't waste your time, energy, and money, calling Molly at the Days Inn Dayton south to confirm your own reservation. I just spoke with her and she told me that ONLY Myron has the reservations and ha has not yet sent the hotel a list. She gave me Myron's phone number so I could contact him but I have been unsuccessful so far. I made a reservation with him at last year's Dayton, but I wanted to add Thursday for "Four Days in May (c)".

PLEASE DO NOT RESPOND TO THIS ADDRESS -- IF YO WANT TO CONTACT ME USE MY HOME ADDRESS: BRUCE3900@DELPHI.COM

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sat Feb 3 00:53:57 1996
From: "L. B. Cebik" <cebik@utkux.utcc.utk.edu>
Subject: [3782] e-mail address change
Message-ID: <Pine.SOL.3.91.960202081940.22840E-100000@utkux4.utcc.utk.edu>

Please note that due to an internal server change from VAX to UNIX, my e-mail address has changed slightly. See the signature lines below for the new address. (If you miss it, utkVx has become utkUx, all lower case--the caps here only for emphasis.)

For direct mail, simply cebik@utk.edu will also get the job done.

L. B. Cebik, W4RNL	/\	/\	*	/	/	/	(Off)(423) 974-7215		
1434 High Mesa Drive	/	\	\	\	----	/\	---	(Hm) (423) 938-6335	
Knoxville, Tennessee	/\	\	\	\	/	/		/	(FAX)(423) 974-3509
37938-4443 USA	/	\	\	\					cebik@utkux.utcc.utk.edu
QRP-1 37	QRP-1 37	ARRL-Life	NEQRP 347	NORCAL 1111	MIQRP 1432				
			QCWA-Life		10-10 41159				

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sat Feb 3 00:53:57 1996
From: Steve Slavsky <sslavsky@CapAccess.org>
Subject: [3823] Explorer II Alignment
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91-FP.960202224053.11117B-100000@cap1.capaccess.org>

I have a question for all you Explorer II for 40M folks. I've read the suggestion to put in a fixed 68pf NPO cap for C62 to help stability and ease alignment. I asked Dick at OHR what spread that gives and the reply was about 70khz. He has not experimented with any other sizes to increase the tuning range. I would like to have the old Explorer range of about 100khz so I can work from about 7025 to 7125 (to get some slow speed practice also). Can anyone tell me what size cap to use for that? I can always put in the variable one that comes with the kit, but this seems like a better idea since I don't plan to change the spread for awhile.

Thanks.

73 & 72,

Steve, N4EUK
Reston, VA

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sat Feb 3 00:53:57 1996
From: JessQRP@aol.com
Subject: [3787] Fox
Message-ID: <960202101028_212351596@emout09.mail.aol.com>

Heard the West coast fox at 10:30 MST. Was working a W9 that I could not hear. Did not hear N2CX at all here. Worked Stan with 559 OHR 400 5 watts into a Gap Titan Vertical. I don't think the band was that hot last night, although was strange. I heard all kinds of signals from 7030 to 7050 but the bottom of the band from 7000 to 7015 was dead...

Best
Jess

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Sat Feb 3 00:53:57 1996
From: bhopkins@polarnet.com (Bruce Hopkins)
Subject: [3815] Fox / Keys / OHR / Etc...
Message-ID: <v01530500ad3852fdcf1d@[204.119.24.115]>

Hi Gang...

Well nothing of the East coast fox last night but had a descent copy from time to time on N6ULU... He never heard me but at least I have finally heard one from the frozen north... I get a couple of the 7.039.5 beacons too well up here, does anyone know what or who they are??? Guess it is time to go to work on my 40m secret weapon... A big roll of wire, the new antenna book, and the challenge of the Fox are a dangerous combination...

A bit late for the poll, but in the spirit of saving headers... Key / Keyer is:

- #1 Vibroplex Iambic & Super CMOS III
- #2 Bencher BY-1 & KC-1 on the Explorer II/20m

My wife has a Vibroplex Presentation and her fathers old bug, she uses #1... After all the flap about bugs & straight keys, I am going to take the Presentation out of the display case and practice with it until I can fool the confuser... Expect its debut in a year or two, unless it puts me in the home...

I completed my OHR Explorer II/20m early this morning (3am)... The band was pretty dead but heard several Russians before stumbling off to bed... What can I say, the kit was everything it was billed to be... Top quality parts, board, and documentation... Many thanks to Dick & Cathy, may you live long and prosper...

Finished the alignment today and proceeded to work CA, NC, AZ, and Japan... I will play with it for a while and then get to cracking on installing the KC-1 Keyer/Freq Counter... Mini-jack for headphones on rear panel and the KC-1 pot out the phones hole in front and the switches to the right... Looks like it should make a very neat installation... Has anyone found a good match on the panel color???

You all take care... 72/73 from our cabin to yours from the Frozen Chosen..

72/73/00's - Bruce * KL7JAF
QRP-L #380 ISSB #14548
McPig #003 TFO - 359
E-Mail: bhopkins@polarnet.com
BBS: KL7JAF@KL7GNG.#NAK.AK.USA.NOAM
Snail Mail: B. Hopkins / P.O. Box 10079 / Fairbanks, AK. / 99710

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sat Feb 3 00:53:57 1996
From: rossi@VFL.Paramax.COM (Pete Rossi)
Subject: [3784] FOX SCHEDULE CHANGE in 2 weeks [correction & addition]
Message-ID: <9602021411.AA22841@gvlf6-a>

Please excuse the typo in the last announcement.

*** FOXHUNT SCHEDULE CHANGE ***

NOTE:: THIS APPLIES TO THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 12th.. ** NOT THIS WEEK **

I will NOT be able to keep my originally scheduled FOX appointment on Thursday evening February 15th (Friday Feb 16 UTC) as posted in the original FOXhunt schedule... So, I am moving my time up one day to:

Wednesday evening February 14th EST (Thu Feb 15 UTC)

I expect to be on 8-10 PM EST (0100-0300 UTC) at 7110 +/- for the first 10-15 minutes (as long as it remains productive) and then move to 7040 +/- for the remainder of the time.

So mark your calendars of this change in date and time.

Also...

Following the regular 40 meter FOXhunt at 0300 UTC, I plan to look for callers on 80 meters (3560 +/-). I will call "CQ QRP FOX" but this will not be counted as part of the regular FOXhunt program. I will try to check 3579 at least once .. depending on how activity goes.

Pete Rossi - WA3NNA

rossi@vfl.paramax.com
Loral Defense Systems-Eagan (formerly Unisys Government Systems Group)
Valley Forge Engineering Center - Paoli, Pennsylvania

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sat Feb 3 00:53:57 1996
From: ae4ic@nr.infi.net (BOB KELLOGG)
Subject: [3821] Fox-Propagation
Message-ID: <199602030307.WAA00091@mh004.infi.net>

Well, I spent 2 hours last night listening for the Joe, N2CX, the New Jersey Fox, and a *sure thing* from North Carolina. Nary a peep, or woof, or howl, except from me.

My wife, the sane one, went to bed, but I stayed up 'til midnight and listened for Stan, N6ULU, the California Fox. After 20 minutes, I heard him. 55 minutes later, I bagged him. At 1:20 Ellen threatened my life if I touched her with my cold feet. She was serious. I didn't tell her I got the Fox.

My Sierra was running 1.8 watts. The Sierra hears as well as my big expensive rig. I seem to be able to work anyone I can hear. (If they want to work me)

Power, shmower. But, I want some more.

73,

Bob Kellogg, AE4IC
Prolably, but not nececelery. - Benny Hill

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sat Feb 3 00:53:57 1996
From: Steve Thompson <kj7dn@primenet.com>
Subject: [3775] Got the Fox in PHX
Message-ID: <Pine.BSD.3.91.960201220056.3323C-100000@usr6.primenet.com>

Nailed the fox, N6ULU, from Phoenix ... he gave me a 579, he got a 589. That's my FIRST fox! Thanks, Stan.

73,

Steve

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+-----+
| Steve C. Thompson - KJ7DN      -----/----- E-mail  kj7dn@primenet.com |
| Manager of Info. Technology    -----/-----      steve@cpginc.com   |
| Continental Promotion Group    -----/H----- |
| Tempe, AZ, USA                H           Proud builder of the OHR   |
|                                H           WM-1 and Explorer II 40M    |
|                                H                                           |
| 602.731.3535                  H           QRP-L #259 - ScQRPions #1  |
|                                H           NWQRP #387 - NorCal         |
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From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Sat Feb 3 00:53:57 1996
 From: AC6JA@aol.com
 Subject: [3820] GREAT PADDLES!
 Message-ID: <960202213031_413233476@mail06.mail.aol.com>

Hi there. Name is Mike and I'm located in SF Bay Area in California. I have been reading most of the messages regarding paddles, and still can't believe that no one has mentioned the G4ZPY paddles! I have the "Three-in-one" miniature paddle specifically made for qrp/mobile/portable operation. The workmanship is exquisite! The paddle sits on a base about an inch and a half square, very tiny. It comes with a magnetic base in order to attach it to something metal. But the very best feature of this tiny paddle is that it fits perfectly upside down underneath the volume knob of the Index Labs QRP Plus when the tilt leg underneath the radio is extended! All you do is reverse the normal dot and dash wires and magnetically attach it to the underside of the QRP Plus! The paddle comes hand-made from England with your callsign engraved on top. I think I paid 80 pounds (I believe it was under \$150.00 shipped). It took a few months to get, but well worth the wait! He also has a full line of paddle and straight keys made to suit your fist and your budget!

If anyone's interested, here's how you can contact him for a brochure:

G4ZPY Paddle Keys International
 41 Mill Dam Lane
 Burscough, Ormskirk
 Lancs., England L40 7TG

Telephone: 44 (1704) 894299

P.S.- I have no financial relationship with G4ZPY! Just a satisfied customer!!

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sat Feb 3 00:53:57 1996
From: Thom.LaCosta@f0.n105.z105.fido261.qis.net (Thom LaCosta)
Subject: [3822] GREAT PADDLES!
Message-ID: <3c7_9602022229@fido261.qis.net>

AC6JA@aol.com wrote in a message to All:

Aa> From: AC6JA@aol.com
Aa> Subject: GREAT PADDLES!
Aa> underside of the QRP Plus! The paddle comes hand-made from England
Aa> with your callsign engraved on top.

Ain't it kinda hard to read the engraving when it's mounted upside down?

Thom LaCosta
N3WDV
Our Business is Business
--

|Internet: Thom.LaCosta@f0.n105.z105.fido261.qis.net
|Standard disclaimer: This user speaks only for him/her self.

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sat Feb 3 00:53:57 1996
From: wdzeares@ix.netcom.com (W. Dennis Zeares)
Subject: [3777] heard the West coast Fox but...
Message-ID: <199602020657.WAA26403@ix3.ix.netcom.com>

After weeks and weeeeeks of not even hearing the FOX, tonight started out that way by not hearing Joe back east, but I did hear Stan at about 0630 to 0645 on 7.0415 +/-...but he was 419 with QSB and he didn't hear me with my indoor antenna or with the hamstick out on the patio railing. So I will just have to try again. Isn't this fun or what! Hope a good time was had by all. Thanks to the two foxes. 72 Dennis K3ETS

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sat Feb 3 00:53:57 1996
From: Frank <frank@yorks.demon.co.uk>
Subject: [3771] How to subscribe to GQRP-1
Message-ID: <uluy0DAnKQExEwap@yorks.demon.co.uk>

I have had a couple of requests wanting info on how to subscribe to the GQRP-L.
Send mail to Majordomo@blacksheep.org with message: subscribe gqrp-1,

nothing else. No subject line needed. Should work!
Frank G3YCC
packet: G3YCC@GB7HUL.#15.GBR.EU

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sat Feb 3 00:53:57 1996
From: rerobins@unccvm.uncc.edu (Richard E. Robinson)
Subject: [3808] Invisible fences
Message-ID: <199602022107.QAA21190@mail.uncc.edu>

Last week my next door neighbors from hell, decided to administer the final blow to my sanity. They decided to install an invisible fence for their dog Rasta.

(My 18 year old son tells me that the dog is named because of his love of reggae music and pot smoke. You can imagine what his 2 teenage owners are up to). The good news is that the dog doesn't use my front yard as his bathroom any more. The bad news is these fences evidently use a VLF signal somewhere in the 160kHz range. The harmonics are generated every 16kHz up into the 30 meter range where there start dropping down into the noise level. It sounds like a grinding CW signal and luckily I can notch it out with an Autek QF-1 audio filter hooked to the HW-9. I've read that the Invisible Fence Co., Inc., supplies a supressor kit for RFI.

Does anyone on the list have an invisible fence or live near one? Any suggestions on how to handle this situation. For someone who enjoys LW and BCB DXing in addition to QRP, this thing is a real nuisance. Maybe it'll break!

72/73,

Rick Robinson kf4ar
rerobins@uncc.edu

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sat Feb 3 00:53:57 1996
From: Thom.LaCosta@f0.n105.z105.fido261.qis.net (Thom LaCosta)
Subject: [3818] Invisible fences
Message-ID: <3c0_9602022104@fido261.qis.net>

Richard E. Robinson wrote in a message to All:

RER> From: rerobins@unccvm.uncc.edu (Richard E. Robinson)
RER> Subject: Invisible fences

RER> Last week my next door neighbors from hell, decided to administer
RER> the final blow to my sanity. They decided to install an invisible
RER> fence for their dog Rasta.

Ooooo, you could build a transmitter and 'test' on the collar frequency...I
would assume if you do it very scientifically, you'll train ole rasta to never
leave the house....then, when he uses the inside of the house for the bathroom,
the neighbors may deduce the invisible fence isn't doing it's job.

Thom LaCosta
N3WDV
Our Business is Business

--

|Internet: Thom.LaCosta@f0.n105.z105.fido261.qis.net
|Standard disclaimer: This user speaks only for him/her self.

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sat Feb 3 00:53:57 1996
From: Byron8LCZ@aol.com
Subject: [3825] Kent & Schurr keys
Message-ID: <960202230204_212916239@mail02.mail.aol.com>

In a message dated 96-02-02 12:03:04 EST, you write:

> There must be a misunderstanding on the cost of the kent Paddles here.
> I just got their flyer, and it says \$88.00 for the self assembly version!
> I bet some Bencher keys are around that range.. or at least were...
>
>
> 73 Brad WB8YGG

Hi Brad,

there is a big difference between Bencher and Kent. the Bencher's mechanism
is flimsy and can easily be bent or broken, especially if you take the key
into the field. You also need a light touch, to use the Bencher. Being an ex
Navy radio op, I dont have a light touch. Did you ever try to send with a
straight key, while the ship does 20 degree rolls ? The Kent is built like a
tank. a solid chunk of brass, two 1/4" dia shafts for the paddle pivots and 4
sealed race ball bearings. Its got to be the deal of the century (at least in
iambic keys). I have two of them, so far. both of them cost 70 dollars each,
a couple of years ago, at Dayton. Last year, they were selling for 85
dollars, if memory serves me. still a great price. If you buy a quality key
the first time around, you wont have to buy a herd of them, before you find
one that you can use a lifetime.

The only flaw I can find in the Kent, is that the thin plastic paddles are mounted using two small screws vertically, allowing the paddles to move a little before the contact starts to close. I drilled and tapped one more hole along the long axis of each paddle, and now hold the paddles on with two screws horizontally. I also made new paddles out of 3/16" thick plexiglas, to eliminate any movement/flexing of the paddle before the mechanism starts to move. this is a minor point but I consider it worth doing. The contacts have locking nuts that dont require any tools, and stay put. Great for lugging it around in the car. Total cost in plexiglas and brass screws, about 90 cents. I use a modified oval shape for the paddles.

I also stay away from chrome plating and any finish that can be scratched easily, for my "in the field" keys. My keys are tools and i use them, in the rain, with the bugs, while eating, etc.

I also have a shiny all brass key with plexiglas cover for home use, but it never travels.

The Schurr Profi (now selling for 240 bucks) is certainly an elligent piece of craftsmanship, but it doesnt work any better then the Kent. I found that out the hard way ! The paddles and brass paddle arms on the Schurr do have a little flex, but its managable.

If i use this one for 20 years, its only costing me (\$210/20 = \$10.50 a year) Still very affordable. For that matter, any key is a bargain, if you use it enough. It sure is nice to have all these great choices. Thanks to all the key makers, world wide.

As far as I know, Schurr keys are only sold at Dayton and thru the mail. Three years ago, I heard that only 24 Schurr Profi keys were brought from Germany to the HamVention.

72, Byron WA8LCZ

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sat Feb 3 00:53:57 1996
From: George.Gingell@bbs.abs.net (George Gingell)
Subject: [3813] KEYS
Message-ID: <1996Feb02.180850.29931@abs.net>

cc: /joel/ wa1qvm malman@bbn.com, joel@bbn.com, malman@bbnplanet.com

Question 1:
Which paddle/key are you using?
=====

KENT with Kent Keyer on Argonaut 509.
Bencher Chrome on QRP+ (Intl. Keyer).
KENT with Super CMOS II, Contest/FD UNIT.
KENT with Super CMOS III, [Not finished yet].
3 or 4 other keyers, either Busted or unbuilt.
WA1TWX/K3TKS CW KEYBOARD on Argonaut 509.
J-38 and British Army Keys on Argonaut.
Large Kent Straight Key to QRP+ (When I want them to understand what I send).
Western Electric 6B Telegraph key (The QRP Key) with the NC-40A.

Question 2:

Which paddle do you wish you were using?

=====

Vibroplex Iambic Chrome
Kent Capacitance Paddles
Schurr Iambic
Schurr Pocket Key
These are on my shopping list.

With all this discussion on keys & paddles, I am surprised not to see some comments from one of the Industry Leaders. Mr. Vibroplex, who is on the list. I was thinking that we might inquire about a group purchase on his product line.

I have had my eye on the Vibroplex Iambic for quite a while. I almost got one with a lil bugger keyer at MRC (Local Ham Store). I got beat out by 2 minutes.

I came in the store as it was being put on consignment. It never made it to the counter. \$ 50 for the pair What a deal! Maybe next time. Pout! Pout!

I might as well comment on the learning to use question while I am on the subject of Keys/Paddles.

I once had an occasion to attempt to access the K8IF CW MAILBOX on HF back in the early days of the Nets. I tryed for weeks to access the MBX with 1 watt and SKN (J-38) without success. I know that Thom was there monitoring and having a laugh. He would occassionally send up 1, dn 1, etc. A clue that I was not quite Zero Beat with his setup. Then for the big shock! He sent a BK and then followed with a Taped RE-PLAY of my sending... Like I said, what a shock. I practiced, and practiced until I could get the Computer to read my keying. K8IF ZW (Actually no space between call and command, if I remember correctly). What is the point, you ask? Get yourself a CODE READER or Computer

Program that can read code and send to it with the straight key. You will get better. Another idea that I have found to be good is to tape record what you

send and play it back. Boy, will you be surprised.. I did this when I was

trying to make some Code Practice Tapes. Have you ever tried to sit down and send the Text from QST for 5-10 minutes with a straight key? Try it. I found that the computer/keyboard is the one thing which most improved my CW copying ability. (I think my Brain has a 30 wpm microprocessor). Like a CPU I can't speed it up, but It sure can do NO OPs forever.

QRP DX TU (C) 1986, G. Danny Gingell@bbs.abs.net

--

George Gingell, user of the UniBoard System @ abs.net
E-Mail: George.Gingell@bbs.abs.net
The WB3FFV Amateur Radio BBS - Located in Baltimore, Maryland USA
Supporting the Amateur Radio Hobby, and TCP/IP InterNetworking

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Sat Feb 3 00:53:57 1996
From: vhatley@usa.pipeline.com (Vernon Hatley)
Subject: [3793] Keys and my very own QRP.
Message-ID: <9602021606.AA01147@pipe5>

First to answer the two questions concerning keys:

1. Bencher (sorry folks, I'm poor and can't afford one of those German jobs)
2. One of those expensive German jobs; heck I'd take a Jones; or a Kent or ..

Second; I completed my first kit last weekend; a Explorer II (40 meter); bought during the group buy. Everything went perfect and it worked the first time I turned it on. WOW! Last night was the first attempt at FOX hunting with it. I never heard N2CX; not a peep. But, I worked N6ULU the first try. What a sense of pride I had; working the FOX with a rig I build with my own paws. I'm hooked for sure; when is the next group buy? :-)

--

KK5RO
Vernon A. Hatley
QRP-L #325

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sat Feb 3 00:53:57 1996
From: DCrespy@aol.com
Subject: [3816] Learning a Bug
Message-ID: <960202205113_212820339@mail04.mail.aol.com>

I can't hold back anymore..

learning a bug is tough..when mastered the resulting cw has character and is easy to copy.

But my concern is the assumption that electronic keyers are the cure all to bad cw.. who has not heard some cw from keyers that was impossible to copy... too many dits...too few dits.. accidental iambic.. ?

Good cw is fun..regardless of how it is made

72/73 Harry KG5LO

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sat Feb 3 00:53:57 1996
From: Charles Cashion <ccashion@spdmail.spd.dsccc.com>
Subject: [3785] lifestyle
Message-ID: <199602021421.AA27735@aplo1.spd.dsccc.com>

Cameron, KT3A wrote (c>)

c> Life is too fast paced. That is why I enjoy CW. But,
c> like the Amish, I won't force my lifestyle on anyone.

Agreed! But that is not the problem!

What are you going to say when other people want to force their lifestyle on you? The problemm is not morse code, the problem is self discipline, and greed.

I have a quote which I copied years ago. I wish I could properly credit it. (1)

Today's source of strife and conflict is found

not so much in outward circumstances as in the
selfish and undisciplined heart.

--unknown

Tnx es 73,
Charles
KC5SNU
--

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sat Feb 3 00:53:57 1996
From: stan@cruzio.com
Subject: [3817] N6ULU fox results

REally had to work to make most of the contacts last night.
The band was noisy and weak.

Thanks to a lot of guys from whom I needed multiple repeats and the
patience shown.

call	sent	rx'd
kj7dn	579	589
ab6dg	579	599
ab5ou	549	579
aa7qy	559	579
aa0yu	549	449
wd4mps	449	449
w4pmr	449	449
w5hns	569	569
kk5ro	559	559
n9sai	559	449
n0tfi	559	579
kf5iv	579	579
w7wc	599	599
wb4tpw	559	459
wb5qmp	559	359
ve7cck	559	459
k5up	559	599
ww7y	549	339
nq7x	449	589
n6mm	599	599
wb6tjff	599	599
wa4kac	339	339
ae4ic	449	339
kc5eqc	449	449

Hope I didn't make too many mistakes

73/2 Stan , N6ULU

E-mail: stan@cruzio.com

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sat Feb 3 00:53:57 1996
From: Nick Franco <nickf@bnl.gov>
Subject: [3791] No Fox Again
Message-ID: <9602021554.AA19010@bnlux1.bnl.gov.bnl.gov>

Here I sit broken hearted

I was at a meeting last night and tried to get home in time to catch the end of the NE-QRP Colorburst Sprint. I got out my Pixie and was all set up in what seemed like a short time. I got on the air just in time to hear W1AW just start up (QRM). Just missed the Sprint. Oh well, There's the FoxHunt for another hour.

I switched to my ICOM 728 and switch the tuner to 40 meters. I tuned up and serarched from 7.035 to 7.045 - nothing. Even the RTTY was real low. As I made my second pass I heard the pounding of a nearby station. I approach the freq and heard my neighbor (a couple of blocks away) on 7.042 calling CQ and then have a QSO with someone. N20FG, Joe, a friend of mine told the other stn. he was running 200 watts on his FT-101E. His signal blocked out from 7.041 to 7.043 on my end. No way to hear a QRP Fox throught that. QRM again. Well, I shut down in disgust and had a game of darts with my son.

72,
Nick

... . -.- .-. .-.- .-.- .-.- .-.- .-.- .-.- .-.- .-.- .-.-
Nicholas J. Franco |\\| ---- Brookhaven National Laboratory

Sr. Systems Specialist .__.. \ / \ / Building 1005 Room 201
Tel: (516) 344-5467 _ /__ / \ / UPTON, N.Y. 11973-5000
Fax: (516) 344-3674 _/QRP-L#13_/ <><
Email: kf2ph@bnl.gov /___/___/ Ham Call: KF2PH NE-QRP#349

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sat Feb 3 00:53:57 1996
From: flanders@GroupZ.net (Jerry Flanders)
Subject: [3773] paddle poll
Message-ID: <199602020453.XAA80627@nss2.CC.Lehigh.EDU>

Informal poll:

1. Which paddle are you using?

Vibroplex straight paddle (not iambic). Don't know what it is called. Chrome mechanism on light brown base. Also converting over to computer keyboard for everything and expect to just have the paddle in standby mode.

2. Which paddle do you wish you were using?

The pretty red/chrome iambic Brown Bros deluxe paddle (with straight key also on the base) that I bought back in about '74, but never could learn to use because my fingers would not learn the new iambic tricks. No, I don't have it anymore.

How about a new poll - If you use an electronic keyer, how many use the iambic paddles with it?

Jerry Flanders W4UKU flanders@groupz.net

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sat Feb 3 00:53:57 1996
From: adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com (chuck adams)
Subject: [3812] Paddles
Message-ID: <199602022229.WAA21409@chuck.dallas.sgi.com>

Gang,

See Feb CQ magazine, K4TWJ Dave Ingram's article.

There is a paddle made by Mike March, WB4FJJ, shown in Photo 1. Cost \$150 shipped to your door. Now has brass base. I have not played with one, but looks super. He says translucent red paddles. With solid brass base it shouldn't move around like the other smaller paddles.

In photo 5 is a paddle made by EA6YG. I have one and it is nice. Base is wooden, thus it is very light, but it does have sticky critters on the bottom corners to "stick" to the desk and not move around.

Also photo 9 is the Vibroplex brass racer with square base which I had mentioned in previous posts. I have serial #1.

dit dit FYI

--

Chuck Adams (K5FO CP-60) adams@sgi.com
Box 181150, Dallas, TX 75218-8150

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sat Feb 3 00:53:57 1996
From: bmitchel@kodak.com (Brad Mitchell)
Subject: [3814] paddles
Message-ID: <9602022315.AA26187@iiatasun.cba.Kodak.COM>

It would be nice if we had a few pics on the qrp-1 page that show different keys.
If I can borrow the digital camera again, I'll take one of the kent key.
73 Brad

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sat Feb 3 00:53:57 1996
From: af852@rgfn.epcc.Edu (William R Colbert)
Subject: [3798] propagation info
Message-ID: <9602021825.AA18824@rgfn.epcc.Edu>

Well, I just subscribed to the N0ing - had the acceptance back in about 45 seconds. Looks like it will be a real asset to those wanting propagation/solar info on a daily basis. To subscribe send to: Majordomo@sel.noaa.gov in the text body subscribe forecast

Just looking at the basic return info - it looks like about the same as what I get from the SESC BBS at Boulder. hope someone finds this helpful. 72/73 Ray

--

Ray Colbert, W5XE/V31XE, El Paso, Tx

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sat Feb 3 00:53:57 1996
From: Urs Schlegel <schlegel@ccgate.ari.ch>
Subject: [3803] Schurr Paddle
Message-ID: <9602020853.A14538@ccgate.ari.ch>

>But don't the Schurr keys have a soft feel? Judging by photographs alone,
>it appears that the acrylic finger pieces would allow for too much
>flexing. No?

-Paul, N9AZ

Not in my experience. But I have to say that I do my keying with little force. I rather have to touch the key to get a sign. For me it feels not soft at all. What's Richard's (DL....) experience? I remember he uses the Schurr key too. Somebody else? Does somebody know a source in Canada or the US for Schurr keys?

72 de HB9HAU Urs schlegel@ccgate.ari.ch

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sat Feb 3 00:53:57 1996
From: Marshall Emm <75230.1405@compuserve.com>
Subject: [3807] Small Wonder rigs (was SWL 40)
Message-ID: <960202180120_75230.1405_HHB80-1@CompuServe.COM>

>From: Ken_KD1XS@prodigy.com (MR KEN A HANKS)
>Subject: [3720] SWL 40

>I recently built a SWL-40 transciever. Works pretty good (on the
>first try!). I have heard that there may be several modifications
>available for this radio, specificaly, a mod to increase the power to
>2 to 3 watts. Anyone heard of this or tried it?

Congratulations-- it's a great little rig and you will have a lot of fun with it, but I'd go with Dave's nomenclature and call it the SW-40, rather than SWL-40. Otherwise it sounds like a receiver [g].

Anyhow, there IS a power upgrade kit available; I put one on the SW-30 and did indeed get it up to 3W. Cost was \$5 post-paid. It's basically an MMIC to boost the drive. In the driver stage you have to remove a couple of caps and solder the MMIC with 4 caps and a resistor to the foil side of the board. You also have to modify the output filter to match the altered impedance. In the 30M version this required removing two turns from a coil and changing a couple of caps.

For more info, get in touch with Dave Benson at SWL: Bensondj@aol.com

Other mods? In place of a power socket I put in a pigtail lead with molex connector (shack standard here, also local ARES). I added a spst power switch on the back and a power-on LED in the front panel upper left corner. I have yet to reduce the side tone level or make it adjustable, but that's on the list.

I thought about adding some sort of filtering and perhaps an audio amp, but settled on the OHR SCAF filter which I can use with any rig and which has plenty of room inside for an audio amp.

73/72
Marshall
AA0XI/VK5FN

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Sat Feb 3 00:53:57 1996
From: af852@rgfn.epcc.Edu (William R Colbert)
Subject: [3801] solar info
Message-ID: <9602021948.AA13202@rgfn.epcc.Edu>

Well gang,
Just got off the web with another source of solar info. This one is at [HTTP://www.ips.gov.au/rwc/](http://www.ips.gov.au/rwc/)

It gives the info from the down under perspective, with readings from Learmouth? Anyway, it has the daily activity, flare info, observed 10.7 cm flux (75), sunspot number (13), with the A-index and K-index from their observation site. There is also graph information of the past few days, recent photo of the sun (1/Feb/96), space weather info and a 3 day forecast. Looks very interesting and I hope you will find this useful. 72/73

--

Ray Colbert, W5XE/V31XE, El Paso, Tx

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Sat Feb 3 00:53:57 1996
From: Paul Harden <pharden@aoc.nrao.edu>
Subject: [3811] Solar stuff for Feb. 2
Message-ID: <199602022223.PAA15877@zia.aoc.nrao.edu>

Gang,
Hectic day at work and no time to update the solar propagation tables. Suffice it to say that our sun had a glitch January 29, raising the global A-index to 16 and dropping the MUF 30-50% beyond normal values. An HF Propagation Warning was issued, which expired a few hours ago (on Feb. 2). Yesterday's A-index back down to 5 and the geomagnetic condition has gone from "active" to "quiet to unsettled." In short, conditions should be fair tonite (friday nite special) and this weekend (for whatever). Last two nites, however, were affected by the "active" geomagnetic disturbance and lower max. usable frequencies.

The complaints from the east coast stations about the poor fox hunt are fully justified.

Have a gud weekend and CU tonite
(7045 1815-2000 MST)

Paul NA5N

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Sat Feb 3 00:53:57 1996
From: "L. B. Cebik" <cebik@utkux.utcc.utk.edu>
Subject: [3805] SPRAT Index
Message-ID: <Pine.SOL.3.91.960202154133.3783B-100000@utkux4.utcc.utk.edu>

The Index to SPRAT Number 1-85 is now available via the FTP facility at Lehigh.edu and via the GET command. For QRP-L subscribers, the message address is LISTSERV@LEHIGH.EDU
The command message is
GET QRP-L/BOOKS SPRAT.INDEX

I received the document as a stream. So far, I have put it in column form for easier reading. I have only started the process of converting the all-cap document to a more usual Upper/lower case situation. Having finished the colum work, I placed it on file with only part of the uc/lc work done to make it accessible quickly, since so many seemed to want access to it. The file is about 74kB long (lengthened due to the spacing

needed for the column format).

If any of the other QRP journals have an index on disk or able to be e-mailed, I'll be glad to add it to the collection under QRP-L/BOOKS, along with the files on periodicals, antenna books, and general qrp electronics books.

I hope this proves useful to list users.

-73-

LB, W4RNL

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Sat Feb 3 00:53:57 1996
From: COUGER GORDON <gcouger@master.ceat.okstate.edu>
Subject: [3774] Taming a bug.
Message-ID: <199602020459.XAA32723@nss2.CC.Lehigh.EDU>

The biggest problem with a bug is getting the dot speed much faster than the dash speed. To learn to use a bug I suggest that you get a piece of brass tubing and extend the arm about 100% and move the weights beyond the end of the base of the bug giving a longer pendulum. The only other way to increase the period of a bug is to make the flat spring longer. Make sure the contacts on the dot side are clean, but don't file them down to brass. This should get the bug where it will send at 10 or 12 WPM a much more comfortable speed for most of us.

I find that I cannot use a bug with the same hand I use for a keyer. So I use a bug right handed and keyer left handed with reversed paddles.

If you don't run your letters together you should get to where you are passable in not too many hours of practice.

Good luck
Gordon

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Sat Feb 3 00:53:57 1996
From: ali@ns2.emirates.net.ae (M M Ali)
Subject: [3788] Temporary Ham Licence
Message-ID: <9602021515.AC15465@ns2.emirates.net.ae>

Hi folks,

Does the FCC accept appln from overseas hams visiting Dayton for the Hamvention via e-Mail (form 610 A)?

Any info will be helpful.

73

```
*****
* M M Ali                      Phone: (+9716) 598912 Home      *
*IT Centre                    FAX:   (+9716) 537309 Home      *
*Box 686 Dubai                Numeric Pager: 9748340 (in UAE)  *
*UAE                          Call Sign: V U 2 A L I          *
*                               *
*A HAM for 25+ Yrs             Been MKTG Radios for 14+ Yrs   *
*HAMBrewed 200+ Hams           Presently administering Radios for a*
*Founded two Ham Clubs         major Airrrline in Gulf Region.  *
*****
```

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sat Feb 3 00:53:57 1996
From: "Norman E. Fink" <norm@uu1238.flowerslabs.com>
Subject: [3792] THE FOX & FOX
Message-ID: <9602021535.AA27618@flowerslabs.com>

All FoxHunters,

Band was very poor last night here in central Florida. Did not hear N2CX (again). But I did hear N6ULU very faintly on 7040 kHz. Copy was extremely poor and was only able to catch a few characters here and there. Thought maybe I would have a chance until a 7th district station started a QSO just below 'ULU. Boy, did he have a long-winded fist - his transmissions went on and on and on... Didn't even try calling the FOX with that going on.

K-2-Norm-Fink

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sat Feb 3 00:53:57 1996
From: Thom.LaCosta@f0.n105.z105.fido261.qis.net (Thom LaCosta)
Subject: [3772] Unused callsigns
Message-ID: <397_9602012343@fido261.qis.net>

Mike Robinson wrote in a message to All:

MR> From: Mike Robinson <miker@cc.com>
MR> Subject: Unused callsigns

MR> The file of the unused 1x2 and 2x1 callsigns has
MR> been uploaded to the incoming directory on lehigh.edu.

MR> lehigh:/pub/listserv/qrp-1/incoming/unused.zip

I grabbed it and unzipped it....it's 57K....if anyone needs it in the
txt form, send email to unused@fido261.qis.net...my gateway will squirt it down
the pipe to you as a text file.

Thom LaCosta

N3WDV

Our Business is Business

--

|Internet: Thom.LaCosta@f0.n105.z105.fido261.qis.net

|Standard disclaimer: This user speaks only for him/her self.

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sat Feb 3 00:53:57 1996
From: ljones@why.net (ljones)
Subject: [3778] WB5TVI
Message-ID: <19960202070206337.AAA183@dal36.why.net>

Hi Mack...

Yes, I have known WB5TVI for about 12 years now. When you say it takes a
real man to have that call you describe him. He stands about 6'-5" tall and
weights about 250+ lbs. The good thing about him is that he one nice guy.
Would do anything for you.

72/73

dee-it dee-it

Larry Jones N50SG <><
4028 Random Circle
Garland Tx 75043-3250

NorTex	QRP-ARCI	G-QRP	MI-QRP
NorCal	NE-QRP	QRP-L	NTMS

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sat Feb 3 00:53:57 1996
From: bmitchel@kodak.com (Brad Mitchell)
Subject: [3796] Re: Alt.Ham-Radio.morse
Message-ID: <9602021730.AA23815@iiatasun.cba.Kodak.COM>

There is a new "News Group" called : Alt. Ham-Radio.morse

This might be a great place for "Old Hams" to give "New Hams" tips on learning and using CW.

It's not being used much now and I think it can be a good resource.

Don, N6FNL

Gee that sounds like what they do at large corporations before divesting ...

Separate them into their own business , and then pull the plug..

:-) Sorry for being even more negative than normal..
one of them days..
73 Brad WB8YGG

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sat Feb 3 00:53:57 1996
From: JEVERHART@cayman.vf.mmc.com
Subject: [3802] Re: Atlantic Coast Fox Bust
Message-ID: <960202152812.232d3aab@carib.vf.mmc.com>

Gang,

I screwed up! The message with the orgianl title was addressed to listserv!
Boy I really can't get anything straight. Our sysop, Jim rsurrected it and sent it to the list. Thanks, Jim.

Another screwup! I did hear another station calling me last night. Fellow NJQRP'er KA5DVS called me. I answered him and gave him a 449, but I never heard from him again. Believe me it's a rough nighttime path. He is aobut 35 or 40 miles north of me and was probably using his vertical antenna. Not enough high angle radiation for NVIS and the ionosphere at night doesn't

support high angle stuff very well anyway. Except to Pete, Wa3NNA who is about 35 miles southwest of me...

I'll be looking for Preston and Paul tonite!

72/73,

Joe E., N2CX

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sat Feb 3 00:53:57 1996
From: KT3A@aol.com
Subject: [3780] Re: CW on emergencies
Message-ID: <960202080009_212284877@mail04.mail.aol.com>

In a message dated 96-02-01 15:57:49 EST, brian@nds.com (Brian Dockter) writes:

>But soldiers are still trained at the art of hand to hand combat, which
>is even more basic. CW like communication is very basic communication
>just like hand to hand combat is very basic fighting.

>

Just ask anyone who had to use an M16 if it ever jammed!

>

>Should we forget how to run because we have a car?

>

>Should we forget how to use a shovel because we have a tractor?

>

>

Okay, I've enjoyed this thread alot. I promise I won't get emotional. I must say that these comments were mine too. I want to comment about about the plow . Here in central Pennsylvania there is a religious sect who call themselves Amish. They live a very simple life that they believe keeps them close to God. They still use the hand plow and will use even a team of horses. They do draw quite a bit of attention. Sad to say, the areas they live in become tourist traps. Here is my point.

I enjoy walking instead of driving when I can. It is a slower paced life style. Something like the Amish. Someday, when few amateurs use CW, we may draw the curious onlookers, who want to see what it was like in days of old, when life was simpler and slower. Fast throughput is good. We live in an information age that demands it. So I say press on to those who love to experiment in fast digital modes.

I enjoy working the Novices in CW even at 5 WPM. It helps me slow down. Life is too fast paced. That is why I enjoy CW. But,

like the Amish, I won't force my lifestyle on anyone.

72 and live better, whatever mode/speed you choose. ;^)
de cameron, kt3a <><QRP-L 7

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sat Feb 3 00:53:57 1996
From: cummings.jim@ic.gc.ca (Cummings, Jim: DGRB)
Subject: [3781] Re: CW on emergencies
Message-ID: <1996Feb02.081156.1255.371226@mspost.ic.gc.ca>

On Jan 31, 9:50am, Cummings, Jim: DGRB wrote:

>> Subject: Re: CW on emergencies

>>

>> Would anyone

>> care to propose that soldiers should continue to be

>> trained in the art of sword-play or javelin throwing? I think

>> not.

>But soldiers are still trained at the art of hand to hand combat, which
>is even more basic. CW like communication is very basic communication
>just like hand to hand combat is very basic fighting.

But that is turning the discussion on its head. The original discussion was Paul's contention that Morse code should be continued to be a back up for emergency communications. I have disagreed because I believe that we can improve our emergency communications abilities investigating new technologies rather resorting on the supposedly tried and true ones. I fail to see how that has anything to do with teaching soldiers hand-to-hand combat training. In any case, such training is given for conditioning and confidence building. If we were to extend the argument to its absurd conclusion, we would teach soldiers hand to hand combat training to the exclusion to all else. If we were to take one platoon of soldiers armed with only their hands and the other weapons, I know on which side I would bet the mortgage.

>Should we forget how to run because we have a car?

Again, it has turned the question inside-out. However, one answer is "who cares - you don't need to know how to run to drive a car"

>Should we forget how to use a shovel because we have a tractor?

Do you need to know how to use a shovel in order to operate a tractor?

>Should we forget how to fight with our hands because we have missiles?

Do you need to know how to fight with your hands to launch a missile?

>Should we forget how to build crystal radios because we have the QRP+?

Do you need to build a crystal radio in order to operate a QRP+?

>Should we forget how to use CW because we have Amtor (or whatever your favorite mode is)?

Do you need to know CW in order to operate Amtor (whatever anyone's favourite mode is)?

>I would say no. CW might not be as important as it was several years ago, but it shouldn't be forgotten.

I agree... I would say no to all my questions as well.

Perhaps CW shouldn't be forgotten, I don't know, I couldn't care less... it is a philosophical issue at this point in time because the original need for amateur competency in Morse code has died away. However, I firmly believe that the use of Morse code should be left on its own merits. If it still has a use, then the amateur community will continue to use it. If not it will die out. I will neither be upset or rejoice in either instance, I just believe that the insistence of testing Morse code is longer justified.

>Brian

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sat Feb 3 00:53:57 1996

From: Brian Dockter <brian@nds.com>

Subject: [3800] Re: CW on emergencies

Message-ID: <96Feb2.113840pst.174286-21726+26@rainier.nds.com>

On Feb 2, 8:14am, Cummings, Jim: DGRB wrote:

> Subject: Re: CW on emergencies

>

> But that is turning the discussion on its head.

If I've ended up in left field with this thread, my apologies. Hopefully I'll be able to turn the discussion back to it's original course.

- > The original discussion
- > was Paul's contention that Morse code should be continued to be a back up
- > for emergency communications. I have disagreed because I believe
- > that we can improve our emergency communications abilities
- > investigating new technologies rather resorting on the supposedly
- > tried and true ones. I fail to see how that has anything to do with
- > teaching soldiers hand-to-hand combat training. In any case, such training
- > is given for conditioning and confidence building.

Most of what you say is true, but hand-to-hand combat still gets used a little. As our technology increases, the amount that it gets used becomes less and less, but it still has it's place. A soldier without knowledge of hand-to-hand combat, but knowledgeable in other areas, can still be effective in most circumstances, and is certainly more effective than one with only hand-to-hand training, but he/she is not fully prepared for all contingencies.

There are many more efficient modes available for emergency communication than CW when throughput is important, but CW still has it's place. If you had to provide long term communication with very limited energy resources, which mode(s) would you choose? If part of your equipment was destroyed in a catastrophe, which mode(s) would most likely be available to you?

- > If we were to extend
- > the argument to its absurd conclusion, we would teach soldiers
- > hand to hand combat training to the exclusion to all else. If
- > we were to take one platoon of soldiers armed with only their
- > hands and the other weapons, I know on which side I would bet
- > the mortgage.

There are people out there that may want to take it to such an extreme, but I am not one of them :-). Hand-to-hand combat is just one of the weapons in a soldier's arsenal; it should not be the only one. CW should be one of the "weapons" in an amateur's arsenal, but it should not be the only one. Just like there are much more effective means of fighting than hand-to-hand, there are more efficient means of communicating than CW.

> >Should we forget how to run because we have a car?
>
> Again, it has turned the question inside-out. However, one answer
> is "who cares - you don't need to know how to run to drive a car"

[Much hot air (from both of us) deleted for brevity :-]

> >I would say no. CW might not be as important as it was several years
> >ago, but it shouldn't be forgotten.
>
> I agree... I would say no to all my questions as well.
>
> Perhaps CW shouldn't be forgotten, I don't know, I couldn't care less...
> it is a philosophical issue at this point in time because the original need
> for
> amateur competency in Morse code has died away. However, I firmly
> believe that the use of Morse code should be left on its own merits. If
> it still has a use, then the amateur community will continue to use it. If
> not
> it will die out. I will neither be upset or rejoice in either instance, I
> just
> believe that the insistence of testing Morse code is longer justified.

There are many other things in the test for an amateur radio license that are not needed to enjoy this hobby, but we are still tested on them. That represents one of the good parts of this hobby: you don't need to know a lot in order to have fun or provide useful communications. If CW remains, it would be in this category (not necessary, but still taught).

Up to this point, I have not really stated what I think should be done with CW (I guess I enjoy playing devil's advocate too much :-). Because CW is less useful than it once was, I personally would do away with the general and extra code tests, but I would still keep the 5wpm test.

Another possibility is to remove the code testing entirely, but encourage RACES and ARES members to reach a certain level of code proficiency. This would allow people to enter the hobby without a knowledge of code, but the people who would be most likely to provide emergency communications would still have a knowledge of it.

CW should remain a part of an amateur's education (just like using the other modes should also be a part), but it no longer holds the high place that it once did. Just like hand-to-hand combat (and the other examples I attempted to apply), using CW alone in an emergency is not usually the best way to go, but having a working knowledge of it can be very handy. Just ask that pilot that was shot down in the Middle East a

while back, he was in an emergency situation, but unfortunately, Amtor was not one of the modes available to him.

72,

Brian

--

Brian Dockter (KC7JZL)	Email: brian@nds.com
Sr. Software Engineer	Voice: 206-524-0014
Northwest Digital Systems	FAX: 206-524-3440

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sat Feb 3 00:53:57 1996
From: dsa@apollo.hp.com
Subject: [3809] Re: CW on emergencies
Message-ID: <199602022126.QAA100243@nss2.CC.Lehigh.EDU>

Of course this has little to do with HAM radio (tho' may fit into the QRP category), but I just wanted to toss something into the argument. Picture this scenario....

The plane you were traveling in crashes in some remote mountains or some island hundreds of miles from anywhere. The plane was way off course so search parties won't look for you there. There is NO emergency beacon. The cockpit is trashed w/no crew survivors. The radio is in pieces. You dig around and are able to salvage the plane's batteries, 100' of wire from the fuselage a variable cap from a transistor radio and a nail file. Hmmm, you think. I'll wind a coil and build a resonant circuit, parallel a dipole antenna from the salvaged wire strung between some trees, then series-parallel the batteries and nail file with a piece of wire as a makeshift CW key. Depending upon the resonant freq of the tank and conditions, somebody could hear that primitive setup hundreds or thousands of miles away.

...oh, still too complex of a transmitter for some? How about this.... You take the laptop computer out of the dead executive's hands, tear off the monitor to save power, take the same dipole antenna and connect one leg to chassis ground and use the other leg like a CW key to the CP CLK (or any other clock on the board in the ham or SW bands).

Oh yeah, if you're in the mountains, it's January and starting to

snow. -and if you're on an island, you have no fresh water.

What? You don't know CW? Knowing how to plug a TNC into a modern HF rig isn't going to help you here. Tisk tisk. What will you do? What WILL you do . . . ?

Like I said, it doesn't apply to the hobby, but is an example of where some very BASIC electronics knowledge and CW knowledge could save your life.

For what it's worth...
-Dale, KB0VCC QRP-L #91

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Sat Feb 3 00:53:57 1996
From: Qrpkj7ho@aol.com
Subject: [3776] Re: FOX SCHEDULE CHANGE in 2 weeks
Message-ID: <960202004912_412627606@mail04.mail.aol.com>

Pete:
You said in your last post...."I will not be unable to keep my originally scheduled FOX appointment"... Now, you used a double negative in that so that must mean you WILL keep your original appointment, but then you went on to say it will be moved to another time??

Please clarify.

Tnx ex 72,
Duane, KJ7HO
QRP-L #164

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Sat Feb 3 00:53:57 1996
From: ar722@cleveland.Freenet.Edu (Donald K.Philbin)
Subject: [3779] Re: Inductance Calculations
Message-ID: <199602020834.DAA13852@kanga.INS.CWRU.Edu>

There is a nice program for the qrp types that runs under Windows. It does coil calculations and much more. Here is the address if you have a web browser:

<http://www.acs.oakland.edu/oak/SimTel-Win3/hamradio.html>
(phew!)
The name of the program is qrphb1.zip.

There are a lot of interesting ham programs at this sie.

If you do not have a web browser you can still get the
program via ftp at:
oak.oakland.edu
anonymous

Look in the SimTel subdirectory. If you need additional help
let me know.

Also you can download a demo (though VERY POWERFUL) version
of PSPICE for windows.

Hope this helps.
D.K. Philbin
Alchemist at Large
KD6TK & OZ2DKP

--

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Sondervangen 56, Postboks 220
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From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Sat Feb 3 00:53:57 1996
From: Monte Stark <ku7y@sage.dri.edu>
Subject: [3810] Re: Invisible fences
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.90.960202131407.6442B-100000@vortex.sage.dri.edu>

Hi Rick,

I'd tell them that THEY have trouble with they new toy and
that it needs to be fixed.

If it was you getting into their TV, what would they do?

Good luck, cul,

73, Ron,

.....KU7Y.....ARCI #8829.....Monte "Ron" Stark.....
...ku7y@sage.dri.edu.....Sun Valley, Nevada....
...QRP-L #17....ARRL....NorCal #330.....NRA LIFE.....

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sat Feb 3 00:53:57 1996
From: bmitchel@kodak.com (Brad Mitchell)
Subject: [3794] Re: Keys and my very own QRP.
Message-ID: <9602021657.AA23587@iiatasun.cba.Kodak.COM>

First to answer the two questions concerning keys:

1. Bencher (sorry folks, I'm poor and can't afford one of those German jobs)
2. One of those expensive German jobs; heck I'd take a Jones; or a Kent or ..

CUT

KK5R0
Vernon A. Hatley
QRP-L #325

There must be a misunderstanding on the cost of the kent Paddles here.
I just got their flyer, and it says \$88.00 for the self assembly version!
I bet some Bencher keys are around that range.. or at least were...

73 Brad WB8YGG

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Sat Feb 3 00:53:57 1996
From: carreiro@netcom.com (Paul Carreiro)
Subject: [3819] Re: Schurr Paddle
Message-ID: <199602030210.SAA28400@netcom21.netcom.com>

> >But don't the Schurr keys have a soft feel? Judging by photographs alone,
> >it appears that the acrylic finger pieces would allow for too much

> >flexing. No?
> >-Paul, N9AZ
>
> Not in my experience. But I have to say that I do my keying with little
> force. I rather have to touch the key to get a sign. For me it feels not
> soft at all. What's Richard's (DL....) experience? I remember he uses the
> Schurr key too. Somebody else? Does somebody know a source in Canada or
> the US for Schurr keys?
>
> 72 de HB9HAU Urs schlegel@ccgate.ari.ch

I operate the Shurr Profi paddle and absolutely love it. No, it does not have a soft feel to it. I too have it setup for very slight movement for QRQ operation. I will say though, that it's feel is much more "soft" than the very hard Jones Key Brass that I also have. FYI: I also have and use a Bencher, Vibroplex Iambic, Vibroplex Brass Racer, Vibroplex Vibrokeyer (single lever) and Vibroplex J36. Of all these keys.. the Shurr is my favorite. For mobile operation, the Brass Racer is used for it's ability to withstand alot of transportation related bumps.

72

Paul N6HCS /M /QRP /QRQ

--

Paul F. Carreiro - N6HCS - E-Mail: carreiro@netcom.com
QRP / Boatanchors / Mobile CW / QRQ +40WPM
NorCal QRP #367 / QRP QRCI #8885 / CW FISTS #1407 / QRP-L #236
Zuni Loop Mountain Expeditionary Force (Rookie)

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Sat Feb 3 00:53:57 1996
From: Jim Eshleman <lujce@hooch.CC.Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [3786] Re: Unused callsigns
Message-ID: <96Feb2.094244est.57460-11784+3@hooch.CC.Lehigh.EDU>

> The file of the unused 1x2 and 2x1 callsigns has
> been uploaded to the incoming directory on lehigh.edu.
>
> lehigh:/pub/listserv/qrp-l/incoming/unused.zip
>
> I don't know how long it will stay there. Is there
> someone that can put this file in a more permanent
> spot on lehigh for those without WWW to have
> access?

The file is available via anonymous FTP from:

ftp://ftp.lehigh.edu/pub/listserv/qrp-l/misc/unused_calls.txt

or via the list server. Send the following command, in the body of an e-mail, to listserv@Lehigh.EDU:

GET QRP-L/MISC UNUSED_CALLS.TXT

73

Jim N3VXI